



# The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

[www.stmargaretmary.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretmary.co.uk)



Sunday 15th March

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Laetare Sunday) (Psalter Week 4)**

8.30am Mary Josephine Navesey RIP  
 10.30am People of the Parish  
 5.30pm Stations of the Cross (Led by the SVP)  
 6.30pm No Intentions

**Fr Emmanuel Rinda Bamuh from Corpus Christi & St Joseph, North End, Portsmouth is coming today to celebrate Mass and will talk about Bamenda, our Lenten Charity, while Fr Ansel celebrates Mass at North End & Copnor.**

Monday 16th

9.30am Jeremy & Yolanda Albutt RIP  
 7pm Adoration

Tuesday 17th

9.30am No Intentions

Thursday 19th

6.15pm Stations of the Cross  
 7pm Clare & George Grima RIP

Friday 20th

9.30am Jim Brown RIP

Saturday 21st

5-6pm Confessions  
 (A list of other Confession times in our pastoral area is available on the notice board or our website)

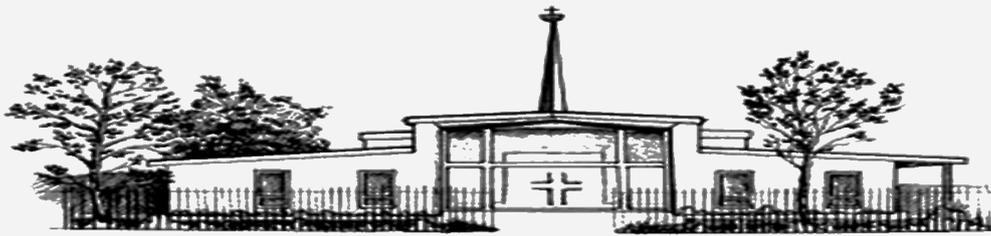
Sunday 22nd March

## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Psalter Week 1)**

8.30am Deceased Members of the Morrish Family RIP  
 10.30am Annie & Gregory Bonavia  
 5.30pm Stations of the Cross (Led by the Choir)  
 6.30am People of the Parish

**Refreshments are served in the Parish hall after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday.**

2026



**Fr Ansel's day off is Wednesday, so will be unavailable.**

**For any urgent sick calls on this day, please contact Cn John Cooke at Sacred Heart, Fareham on 01329 318869.** The Church will be open from 9am-1.30pm for private prayer.

### **Sunday 15th March—Laetare Sunday**

The Sunday is considered a day of relaxation from normal Lenten rigours; a day of hope with Easter at last within sight. Laetare Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Lent, a day of joy and hope in the midst of the penitential season, named from the Latin word "Laetare" meaning "rejoice."

Also know an **Mothering Sunday**, Christians have historically visited their mother church—the church in which they received the sacrament of baptism and also honour their mother.

### **Fr Ansel's Easter Collection**

One of the ways in which the Parish can support our Parish Priest in his ministry is by contributing to the Easter Collection. There are four ways in which you can give:

1. The collection on Easter Sunday
2. A bank transfer to the parish bank account, please put ref 'easteroffering'
3. Contactless payment via Dona machine at the back of church - option marked "Priest Easter Collection"
4. Use our give as you live page - <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/park-gate-st-margaret-mary-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2026>

Thank you—Finance Committee.

### **Short Reflection on this weeks Gospel—John 9 v 1-41**

When we reflect on John 9:41, it is crucial to remember that Jesus speaks directly to the heart of spiritual understanding. The context of the entire chapter centres around the healing of a man born blind. This miraculous event reveals not just the physical healing but also serves as an allegory for spiritual enlightenment. In our own lives, how often do we think we have 'sight' but we fail to recognize our spiritual blindness? Jesus highlights the importance of being open to the truth and receptive to the guidance of His Spirit.

This verse reminds us that we should not become complacent in our faith. Instead, we should seek to grow and continue to invite God to open our eyes to areas where we may be blind.

In light of this, let us be inspired to continually seek God's truth and rely on His light to guide our paths. This may involve reading Scripture, praying for discernment, and being willing to listen to the counsel of mature Christians in our lives. Each step taken towards truly seeing can lead to deeper faith and a more genuine relationship with Christ.

The challenge that arises from this narrative is vital for us today, as it urges us to be vigilant about our spiritual state. Are we truly seeing Christ for who He is, or are we allowing our preconceived notions and prejudices to dictate our beliefs?

This underlying message calls us to embrace a more profound faith journey, seeking constant renewal in our understanding as we walk with Christ.

**Mass Intentions.** To book a Mass intention/s please contact the Parish office by phone, email or in person. If you leave an envelope outside office hours, please put all your details on envelope. The most important thing is that the sacrifice of Mass is offered, but we cannot guarantee the date. If you make a donation via BACS, please include reference of 'Mass Int'. Thank you.

### **Standing Orders and Gift Aid**

Thank you for all you do to support your parish in many different ways.

If you haven't already done so, please consider donating via a standing order, and sign up for gift aid, in order to provide a more stable, and 25% extra, parish income. Forms available on the website, at the back of the church and from the Parish Office.

**Contactless Giving**—Available at the back of the Church.

### **Do you need our bank details?**

**CDP PARK GATE ST MARG MARY**

**Sort Code: 30-93-04      Account Number: 00883663**



**You can also scan this QR code to donate online.**

**Park Gate Noticeboard** For more information on all our activities, have a look on our web site:  
[www.stmargaretmary.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretmary.co.uk)

**Please submit any notices for the Newsletter by Wednesday lunchtime.**

**Advance notice:** The Newsletter published on the 27th March will be a two week issue to cover the Easter period the next issue being on 10th April, please bear in mind for items you need to advertise.

The Parish office will be closed over Easter from Thurs 2nd and re-open on Tuesday 7th April.

### **Padre Pio Prayer Group**

The next meeting is: Sunday 29th March @ 7.45pm

You are all most welcome. For more information, please contact David Walford: [walford101@hotmail.com](mailto:walford101@hotmail.com)



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

We are here to help. If you need help in any way, or are interested in volunteering some time to help, give us a call, in confidence, between 9am and 6pm on 07935 941686.

Donation cheques to be made out to : B170413 SVP St Margaret Mary Park Gate

**Friday Coffee Morning** - Join us for coffee morning in the Paray room after Mass.

**Shop (Repository)** — Please call in and see the range of Christian gifts and cards available.

### **Vinnie's Café—Saturday 28th March from 2-4pm.**

Come along for a friendly chat and cup of tea. All welcome. Free, but donations welcome.

**Please note, this month the café will take place in the Paray room at the front of the Church.**

### **Lenten Fundraising. ST. Patrick's Night Celebration—Saturday 21st March at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.**

Tickets £10 (pre-booked only) —are now available after all Masses from the 8th February.

All welcome—an evening of Irish flavoured fun and light entertainment. Come along and join in the craic.

ALL PROCEEDS to our special Lenten Charity, **BAMENDA**. For further details for tickets contact Maggie at [maggie@raymontc.plus.com](mailto:maggie@raymontc.plus.com)

### **Other Dates for the diary:**

**Sunday 15th March**—Cake Sale after all Masses.

### **Parish Stations and Prayer Walk—Saturday 28th March—11am-12pm. (Victoria Park, Hamble)**

This Lent we are planning a short Stations and Prayer walk, followed by a picnic lunch in Victoria Park, Hamble. This walk will be open and accessible to all. Pushchairs, scooters, dogs, etc all welcome. Pop the date in your diary now and look out for more details in the next few weeks.

**Bamenda**—there is now a display in the Church foyer where you can read more about our Lenten Charity.



As part of the Lent appeal for CAFOD, I am taking part, once again, in 'The Big Lent Walk'. This involves me walking 200Km during the 40 days of lent. I plan to walk 4-5 miles each weekday to try and reach the target before the start of Holy Week (a busy time with the choir!). If you could sponsor me to help me reach my



£500 target that would be great. You can do this on line using the following link

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/chris-fundraising-page331> or by scanning the QR code. Alternatively, you can see me after 10.30am Mass any Sunday. Thank you for your support. God bless, Chris Lane.

**Please see the display on the paray room bi-fold doors in foyer for more information about CAFOD.**

### **Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima and Nazare.**

1st—7th October 2026. £895.00 sharing, £995.00 in single room Full details and itinerary are on the noticeboard.

### **Housekeeping.**

The works to improve our Wireless connectivity throughout the Church site have now been completed.

### **Church Hall availability.**

Please note from Saturday 28th March through to Monday 6th April the Church hall is unavailable due to Holy week.



If you are unwell and would like a Eucharist Ministry team member to bring Holy Communion to you at home. Please contact Jane Green on 07528 948536

If you are going in to hospital, please contact the relevant chaplaincy service:  
Southampton General 02381 208517  
QA Portsmouth 02392 286408

## Second Collections

### Sunday 15th March—Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund.

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Clergy Support Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

You can donate via the option on the Dona machine, the following link

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/diocesan-clergy-assistance-fund>

**Contact Details: St Margaret Mary, Middle Road, Park Gate, Hants SO31 7GH**

**Parish Priest: Fr Ansel D’Mello**

Tel: 01489 572797

**Parish Administrator: Heather Skittlethorpe**

**Parish Office hours:**

**Monday to Wednesday 9.30am to 2pm Friday: 9.30am to 2pm**

**Out of hours please get in touch as below**

Email: [office@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:office@stmargaretmary.co.uk) Tel: 01489 572797

**Parish Gift Aid:** Milton Hewins Email: [accounts@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:accounts@stmargaretmary.co.uk)

**Safeguarding Co-ordinators: Contact:** [safeguarding@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stmargaretmary.co.uk)

Anita Fitzpatrick: 07743 481363 or Fran Slater: 07899 691094

**Hall Bookings:**

Email: [hall@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:hall@stmargaretmary.co.uk)

**Maintenance:**

Email: [facilities@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:facilities@stmargaretmary.co.uk)

**Repository (Greeting Cards, Books, Gifts and more)**

Enquires: [office@stmargaretmary.co.uk](mailto:office@stmargaretmary.co.uk) (please see [www.cbcdistributors.co.uk](http://www.cbcdistributors.co.uk) for items you can order)

**Portsmouth Diocese Safeguarding Coordinator:** Ruth Attfield 023 9421 6486

Email: [rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**St Anthony’s Catholic Primary and Pre-School Headteacher:**

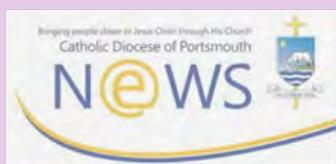
Katrina Straker, Primate Road, Titchfield Common, PO14 4RP 01489 579100

Email: [office@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk](mailto:office@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk) [www.saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk](http://www.saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk)

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[www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews)



**St Margaret Mary website**

[stmargaretmary.co.uk/](http://stmargaretmary.co.uk/)

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 1199568)

**“Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church”**